

## A Special 'Thank You' To Jeff Crago

Did you know that Jeff has been making brownies for the club meetings since 1987! Yep, he brings them every month.

He joined Sho Fu Bonsai in 1987 but says he has been working with plants since he was about 12 years old. His favorite tree to work on is a ficus.

Jeff is a real trooper when it comes to pitching in and helping. Thank you Jeff!



## President's Message from Pg. 1

and too late. Cypress, junipers, and pines are the fussiest and need to be dealt with in January and February. Most tropicals can be potted and repotted anytime but always respond best during the warm months.

I'm looking forward to our auction on November 2. Our auctioneer will be Randy Brooks, who does the auctions for the Miami and Gold Coast clubs. You may have gotten a taste of his sense of humor from his articles on junipers featured in the last three issues of the BSF magazine. Erik is trying to get him to do a demo for one of our meetings in 2007.

There will be a silent auction before our live auction, so come as early as you can. The silent auction is a great way to sell smaller items or things donated to the club. We're hoping to set up at 6:00, begin registration by 6:30, and start the live auction at 7:30. If you're planning to sell anything at the auction, you need to have it tagged with the 3-part tags Lisa Weber printed for us. Contact Cindy Petterson at pettersjohn@aol.com if you need more tags. Only members can sell, but visitors are welcome to come and buy, so bring friends.

Finished bonsai and unusual materials always generate the most interest and highest prices. It is an excellent time to earn a little, spend a little and upgrade your collection. See you November 2.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Workshop: Saturday, November 11; 10:00 at Tokonoma, 6611 14th Street, Bradenton

Christmas Party: Sunday, December 3; 5:00 at Timmie Stewart's, 6750 Approach Road, Sarasota. RSVP to pettersjohn@aol.com or 863-683-3555, or call Timmie at 941-922-2313. Bring an inexpensive gift if you want to participate in a gift exchange. Potluck

Tuesday, January 16: Visiting Master Ben Oki

Sunday, February 4: Visiting Master Suthin Sukosolvisit

Saturday & Sunday, February 10 - 11: Bonsai at the Grove, Erik Wigert's big weekend event

PLEASE WEAR YOUR CLUB NAMETAGS. We keep our nametags in the glove compartment so we always have them convenient.

2007 DUES ARE DUE, \$25 single, \$30 family and \$9 for a junior. Make check payable to Sho Fu Bonsai Society and bring to the November meeting or mail to Cindy Petterson. If they aren't turned in to BSF by early December, you won't get the first state newsletter.



Photo by Gloria Champer

This photo shows how Vito arranges and displays his bonsai.

**Sho Fu Bonsai**  
2844 Prestwick Dr.  
Lakeland, Fl. 33803

# Sho Fu Bonsai



November 2006 - Volume 8, Issue 11

## On the Road to Going, Going, Gone From the President

By John Petterson

At our October meeting Julie Trigg demonstrated a Phoenix graft with an old buttonwood trunk and a Shimpaku juniper whip. She had done extensive prep work on the buttonwood, including bleaching, staining and carving. After a lot of gluing, screwing, binding, bending and wiring, Julie ended up with a really nice looking bonsai. As she said, a couple of years from now, this could be a



Top and bottom photo by Peter Trigg



Photo by John Petterson

beautiful piece. We think it already is.

Once again, we enjoyed a wonderful road trip to Vito's (see photos page 4). It was a beautiful Saturday morning and his collection is in fine form. There is never a dull moment viewing his tropicals,

conifers, deciduous, single trees, forests, Phoenix grafts and thread grafts, seven (yes, seven!) of which were won in raffles. Vito has designed really nice benches and pedestals to showcase that great collection, too. It was a real treat. An added bonus was the connections made as people talked about their other hobbies and their old neighborhoods; some of our members are a lot closer than the cliché six degrees of separation.

We are fast approaching "winter time" in our part of Florida. There are a few trees that like to be repotted and root pruned during their dormant season and if you blink, it will be Spring

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A full house turned out to watch the Phoenix graft demo (above) and this photo (right) catches Gerry Genn on a very rare occasion of writing a check! More photos on page 3 and 4.

**Remember, no meeting in Dec.  
Christmas Party at Timmie Stewart's  
House on Dec., 3rd. at 5pm**  
(See President's Message for full details)

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**Free club workshop:**

**Saturday, Nov. 11th at 10 am**  
Tokonoma Nursery 6611 14th St. Bradenton



**Sho Fu Bonsai Society**

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**Officers**

President: John Petterson  
Vice President: Erik Wigert  
Secretary: Thelma Thompson  
Treasurer: Cindy Petterson  
Past President: Joe Moreno  
Director: Timmie Stewart  
Director: Lisa Weber  
Director: Phil Hummel  
Director: Mike Knowlton  
Club Workshops:  
Barb Bauman  
Hospitality:  
Gloria Champer  
Membership:  
Steffony Wells  
Club Photographer:  
Barb Bauman  
Raffle: Lisa Weber  
Printing: Lisa Weber/  
Classic Printing  
Newsletter Editor:  
Julie Trigg  
Webmaster:  
Steven J. Ackerman

**NOTE:** This will be my last newsletter for Sho Fu. I will be happy to help another club member that would be willing to take it on. I used QuarkXPress and Adobe Photoshop. Julie Trigg

# Sho Fu Minutes for October, 2006

Call to order: 7:08 P.M. New Business:

1 - ) Election of officers: Vito presented the slate of officers suggested by the nominating committee.

President: John Petterson. Vice President: Erik Wigert Secretary: Thelma Thompson

Treasurer: Cindy Petterson

John asked for other nominations from the floor. There being no other nominations, the vote was taken and the slate elected.

Announcements:

1 ) Visit to Vito's: The visit to Vito's home is scheduled for Saturday at 10 A.M. Directions to the house were passed out.

2 ) Junior members: The first Junior Member of the club under the recently inaugurated program is Thomas Rocks. Welcome to the club, Thomas!

3 ) Fort Myers Club: The Fort Meyers Club will be having its show and sale on November 10 and 11.

4 ) Visiting Master: Suthin Sukosilvisit will be at the Fort Meyers show and sale in November, and will be here at our club on Sunday, February 4, 2007 for a demo and workshop.

5 ) Sho Fu logo shirts: The shirts have arrived and were distributed to the membership. T-shirts and aprons are available. See Cindy if you would like one.

6 ) Librarian: Kathy Powell has offered to serve as the club librarian. She will plan and organize a coordinated program. Thank you, Kathy.

7 ) Club Auction: The club auction will be held on November 2 . Members are asked to submit a list of the items they will have for sale, and to fill out a form to be attached to each item. All items to be auctioned will have a carbonless three-part tag with the sellers name, item description and data, and minimum bid, if any. As they are auctioned, the winning bidder and bid amount will be entered. Cindy will pass out the tags at the meeting. The bottom sheet will go to the winning bidder, the top to the cashier, and the third will stay with the item. Cindy passed out the forms to be used.

All bids at the auction must be in full dollar amounts. A silent auction will be held from 6 to 7 PM. Randy Brooks will be the auctioneer for the evening. He is the auctioneer for the Miami and the Gold Coast clubs.

8 ) Workshop: Barb announced that the gathering last week was very successful, with many attendees, including someone who read the recent article in the Bradenton Herald and decided to see what was going on.

Program:

Julie Trigg presented a program on doing a phoenix graft, and "married" a Shimpaku Juniper to a beautiful buttonwood base on which she had done extensive preparation work, including bleaching and carving.

Raffle: The raffle items this evening were a logo shirt and a year's free membership in the club. Kay Karioth, who assisted Lisa Weber with the raffle, won the free membership, and Richard Dietrich won the club logo shirt.

Respectfully submitted, Thelma Thompson, secretary.

## FORT MYERS ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW

### BONSAI IN THE TROPICS

**Friday & Saturday, November 10 & 11**

Saint John the Apostle Church, 3049 McGregor Boulevard

Will feature Bonsai exhibit, critiques, bazaar area, raffles and workshops by:

Suthin Sukosolvisit, Mike Cartrett, Ed Trout, Rob Kempinski, Jim VanLandingham, Ernie Fernandez, Erik Wigert, Justin Michael, Glenn Hilton, Vladimir Foursa, Richard Turner and JJ Turner! For details call Dorothy Schmitz, Event Chairperson 239-565-1400 or at: [erniesbonsai@earthlink.net](mailto:erniesbonsai@earthlink.net)

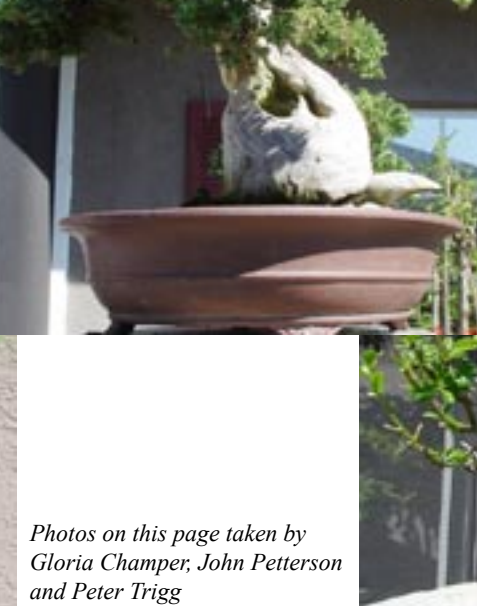


**Julie Trigg's Phoenix Graft Demo:** Julie first drilled holes in the pot and bottom of the driftwood before anchoring the rock and deadwood to the pot with screws and wire so there was no movement in the deadwood and rock base. This elevated the deadwood almost to the top of the pot and will decrease the amount of moisture on the base of the wood. She had already applied Minwax wood hardener to the base of the deadwood. A very hard wood should be used for this purpose so it will last many, many years. She then positioned the Shimpaku juniper into the oversized pot (to give the roots more room for the first year or so) and positioned the live tree into a groove that she had mostly chiseled before the demo. She elected not to cut off the juniper limbs on the bottom and only cut the ones on the side of the tree that would be forced into the groove, thereby reducing the shock to the tree. She also elected not to wire the juniper limbs at this time for the same reason. Once the tree has recovered and starting to put out new growth, she explained that she will then decide which ones to keep and which ones to cut or possibly gin. After putting Liquid Nails in some areas of the groove she forced the juniper into the slot and secured it with plastic lock strips which will be removed in a few days.

Here are three Phoenix grafts that Vito Morrongiello has done in the past five years. The Bald Cypress (left) was also done about 3



grafts that Vito Morrongiello has done in the Juniper (top photo) was done 5 years ago, the Buttonwood (right) years ago. Nice work Vito!



Photos on this page taken by Gloria Champer, John Petterson and Peter Trigg